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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, MINH DIEU T

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2137

DATE MAILED: 03/03/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/923,966

Applicant(s)

FACCIN ET AL.

Examiner

Minh Dieu Nguyen

Art Unit

2137

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 December 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. This action is in response to the communication dated December 19, 2005
Claims 1-16 are pending.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments, filed December 19, 2005 with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1-16 have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made in view of Ohashi et al. (5,596,641) and Tummala et al. (6,915,345).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-3 and 9-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ohashi et al. (5,596,641).

a) As to claims 1 and 9, Ohashi discloses an authentication system and method for mobile communications comprising forwarding identifying information and a request for a security association from a mobile node (Fig. 3, element 35) via a first

interface to a first network element (i.e. visited network, Fig. 3, element 31; mobile station requests roaming to the visited network which is different from his home network requires mobile station is authenticated, i.e. request for authentication, col. 2, lines 11-18); forwarding the identifying information and the request for a security association from the first network element to a second network element (i.e. home network) via a second interface (Fig. 3, element 30; col. 10, lines 64-66); performing negotiations between the first network element and the second network element via the second interface to establish a security association (col. 11, lines 1-13) between the mobile node and the first network element, the second network element utilizing previously stored security association parameters of the mobile node (Fig. 7A, element s704); and upon agreement between the first network element and the second network element with regard to the security association parameters, the first network element forwarding the agreed-upon security association parameters to the mobile node via the first interface (col. 11, lines 14-19).

b) As to claims 2 and 10, Ohashi discloses performing negotiations between the first network element and the second network element via the second interface includes exchanging parameters for the establishment of the security association (col. 11, lines 1-13).

c) As to claims 3 and 11, Ohashi discloses the first interface comprises a wireless interface to forward information between the mobile node and the first network element (Fig. 3, elements 35 and 37).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 4-8 and 12-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ohashi et al. (5,596,641) in view of Tummala et al. (6,915,345).

a) As to claims 4 and 12, Ohashi does not specifically disclose the first network element is connected to a first gateway.

Tummala discloses a system providing a security framework for control plane messages between different domains as the Mobile node roams throughout the network (col. 9, lines 61-64) comprising the first network element (i.e. foreign network) is connected to a first gateway (Fig. 4, element 345).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to employ the use of connecting the first network element to a first gateway in the system of Ohashi, as Tummala teaches so as to enhance the security in network communications.

b) As to claims 5 and 13, the combination of Ohashi and Tummala discloses the first gateway comprises a AAA server (Tummala, Fig. 4, element 349).

c) As to claims 6 and 14, Ohashi discloses the second network element comprises a subscriber database (Ohashi, Fig. 3, element 34). Tummala discloses the

second network element comprises an authentication center (Tummala, Fig. 4, element 317).

d) As to claims 7 and 15, the combination of Ohashi and Tummala discloses the second network element further comprises a second gateway (Tummala, Fig. 4, element 315) connected to the subscriber database and authentication center.

e) As to claims 8 and 16, the combination of Ohashi and Tummala discloses the second gateway comprises a AAA server (Tummala, Fig. 4, element 317).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Minh Dieu Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-3873.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Emmanuel Moise can be reached on 571-272-3865. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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E. L. Moise

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SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER